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FINANCIAL TIMES

Friday September 12 2014

UK HOMEPAGE

Bit of a do: PM's 'call to arms' over drinks

Cameron evoked Britain's defeat of Hilter as he spoke to an audience of more than 100 business leaders of the need to fight to keep the UK together

Scots warned over decade of doubt

One of Britain's leading industrialists has given warning of a decade of uncertainty as Scotland's banks have revealed plans to move south

Yahoo faced fines over NSA compliance

Search group's battle with the US government over its request for information on its users dates back to 2007

VIDEO

Yes means no Scottish banks

Lloyds Bank, RBS, TSB and Clydesdale have all said they would relocate their HQs to London if the Scots vote Yes in the independence referendum. Lex's Oliver Ralph and Joseph Cotterill wonder if this is such a great surprise and what Scotland should do.

US HOMEPAGE

Robot able to handle new objects unveiled

EU-funded programmes at Birmingham university develop robots that can manipulate objects they have not seen before

US builds support for new Isis strategy

Ten Arab states promise to join US-led coalition to pursue the extremist group in Iraq and Syria

Hertz strikes board deal with Carl Icahn

Proxy battle is averted at the car rental company that lost its chief executive this week after activist investor wins right to appoint 3 nominees

EUROPE HOMEPAGE

Draghi hits back at critics of ABS plan

The ECB chief wants to ease fears that his institution will take on too much risk as it seeks to help free up banks' balance sheets and spur lending

IMF warns of fallout from Scottish split

Global financial institution wades into referendum debate, speaking of potential short-term 'negative reactions' to a Yes vote

German cabbies carry out Uber sting

App driver hired solely to have injunction served on him backed by the threat of a €250,000 fine or a six month jail sentence

ASIA HOMEPAGE

Alibaba defends payments arm split-off

Chinese group defends 2011 transfer of its corporate arm after investors expressed concern about corporate governance during its fundraising roadshow

Russia threatens car and clothing imports

Moscow's warning has come as EU diplomats ended a week-long deadlock and agreed to trigger fresh measures over the conflict in Ukraine

IEA notes 'remarkable' hit to oil growth

International Energy Agency cuts its oil demand growth forecasts as weak growth in Europe and China drives a drop in global appetite for crude

WORLD NEWS

Pistorius found not guilty of murder

The judge will not rule on whether the athlete is guilty of culpable homicide until Friday when she will finish reading her judgment

Spectre of default looms over Venezuela

Yields on Venezuelan bonds have risen since Caracas put Citgo up for sale and reassured investors it can refinance $7bn of debt coming due this year

Poland calls for €700bn EU spending round

Poland's finance minister, Mateusz Szczurek, has called for the creation of a €700bn infrastructure investment fund to help boost growth

Malmo migrants stoke Swedish election race

The rising cost of funding immigrants is proving a key campaign issue ahead of Sunday's election and is garnering support for the Sweden Democrats

Superyacht spats in rougher legal waters

The number of public battles has surged in the wake of the financial crisis in an industry previously renowned for its gentlemanly discretion

COMPANIES NEWS

BES made secret loans to top shareholder

Questions raised over Bank of Portugal's supervision amid revelations undeclared loans were routed through Panama to bank's controlling shareholder

Vodafone says door is open to new deals

Investment in company's networks to put it in better position to engage in dealmaking in the longer term, chief tells New York conference

Eni chief probed over $1bn Nigerian deal

Claudio Descalzi faces questions from Italian prosecutors over a 2011 acquisition of one of Nigeria's most prized oil concessions involving Eni and Shell

Rank eyes sale of timber businesses

Potential disposal of Carter Holt Harvey Wood Products, which operates across Australia and New Zealand, would be latest deal for Graeme Hart

RadioShack in talks to avoid bankruptcy

US electronics retailer is examining its options to recapitalise a balance sheet, including a possible sale or capital injection

MARKETS

Asia bourses mixed amid China credit data

Asia markets bourses were mixed following the release of data showing that Chinese credit grew in August, while US investors fretted over the likelihood of rate rises

Scientists unlock secrets of coffee DNA

Scientists hope that by sequencing DNA of the coffee bean they will be able to produce hybrid plants that yield higher and are more disease-resistant

Sub-Saharan debt sales hit record high

Africa has been one of the top beneficiaries from demand from pension funds, insurers and sovereign wealth funds seeking higher-yielding assets

Century bond surge defies rate fears

Total sales of the securities are running at $14.3bn, a jump of almost 60 per cent from the same period in 2013, according to Dealogic

Grain stocks set to be highest since 2003

That would be the more than 6 percentage points from lows during the food crisis in 2007-08, when soaring prices triggered riots, the UN FAO said

COMMENT

The world says No to Scottish separation

The Yes campaign has replaced civic nationalism with identity politics in a cynical, bewildering and finite game

Virtual drawbridge of fortress finance

The big question is what might happen if Russian hackers stop feeling they have a stake in global finance or market stability

US must leave Isis to the regional states

Gung-ho battle cries slip off the tongue and raise the grim prospect of unintended consequences

A flight path worth taking for air safety

Airlines' different approaches to conflict zones leave passengers wondering who is in charge of ensuring the safety of the skies

Apple's big day didn't turn me on

Mobile phones have become the new cars: they lead to romance and their every detail becomes someone's obsession or fetish

MANAGEMENT

Commerce summer camps for teenagers

As schools introduce finance lessons to arm kids with real-world skills, a crop of holiday camps have found how to teach business to youth

Delivery apps that fetch and carry

Silicon Valley is investing in on-demand delivery start-ups that send someone to deliver, for example, food or items from shops

The difficulties for China's ancestry sleuths

Fewer publicly held records, a smaller stock of surnames and disappearing temples have left a gap in China's market for researchers

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